

**5 games to keep your kids away from the computer**  
LIFESTYLE / D1

**Depositors plan revival of rural bank in Pampanga**  
ACROSS / A14

**LONELY AT THE TOP**  
The government toward missing Chief Justice Reynato S. Puno.  
"unbelievably works to destroy the most credible institution in Philippine Society," the Asia Pacific Bar Association declares in a statement.  
(CONTROVERSY)

**SWS survey: Top 3 in presidential race still Noli, Loren, Manny**  
NEWS / A2

# PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS



## GMA is antidrug czar

**Ex-Justice Reyes says: Nothing to hide**

By Norman Bordadora

RETIRED SUPREME COURT Justice Ruben Reyes yesterday said he and his staff had been questioned by a court panel looking into the leak of his draft decision on an election dispute, and declared he had nothing to hide.

In an interview with the Inquirer, Reyes emphatically denied that he or his staff was the source of the leak and said he would not release the release of a still confidential ruling.

Reyes had penned the anticipated decision nullifying the 2007 proclamation of Negril Oriental Rep. Jocelyn Limdon along, in unauthorised release sparked criticism against Chief Justice SWSURCE A2

## President orders PDEA, DOJ to unite in war on traffickers

By TJ Burgin and Christine V. Eggers

THE SELF-PROCLAIMED NEW ANTI-drug czar yesterday ordered feuding officials of the Department of Justice and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) to get their act together in a fresh war against drug trafficking.

Opening a Cabinet meeting on the drug situation amid a bribery scandal riling the justice department, President Macapagal-Arroyo said: "A country awash with illegal drugs is a country compromised, its law and order institutions tainted and corrupted."

"It is in this tragic context that the government should step out in all-out war, on eradicating and eliminating war against illegal drugs and their devil merchants."

My Arroyo announced she would assume the position of czar or overseer of the fight against drug trafficking until the bribery controversy is resolved.

Among those present at the meeting were the chief prosecutors in the scandal—Justice Secretary Real Gonzales and PDEA Director General Sherilene Santiago.

QNA A2



**BEWARE, DEVIL-MERCHANTS!** President Arroyo is using the full power of the presidency for the government's all-out war on drug traffickers. She has ordered the PDEA and the Department of Justice to "build up cases and win victories," as noted.

## Doña Mary dies claspng Erap's hand

By DJ Tap

MARIA "DOÑA MARY" Manalang Ejercito died quietly in her hospital bed yesterday afternoon, her hand clasped tightly by her most beloved son, former President Joseph Ejercito, whose she and GLE Eran power she had lived long enough to see.

She was 93. A "pillar of strength" for her family, Doña Mary succumbed to a heart ailment arising from old age at her home at San Juan Medical Center in San Juan City. She had been confined in the hospital since last year, stricken to a respirator.

She was surrounded by her closest family members. **QNA-MARY A2**



**FAVORITE SON** Doña Mary died yesterday, her hand clasped by her most beloved son, former President Ejercito, whose she and GLE Eran power she had lived long enough to see. **QNA-MARY A2**

## President ignores Gonzalez's proposal to suspend PDEA men

By TJ Burgin and Norman Bordadora

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO has ignored Justice Secretary Real Gonzales's suggestion that officials of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency

(PDEA) go on leave like what five justice officials and prosecutors have done in connection with a drug-related bribery scandal.

"We did not touch it [during the Cabinet]," Gonzales said. "The President said, 'I'll handle it.'"

He told reporters at a briefing in Malacañang.

Gonzales said he took up the matter with Macapagal-Arroyo at yesterday's Cabinet meeting and she told him that making the officials of the Department of Justice

PHILIPPINE A2

## RP student packs tux for Obama bash

By Nancy Canajal

IT ISN'T JUST THE FRONT PAGE on a news outlet that this 79-year-old Filipino is looking forward to, it is also a chance to ask Barack Obama what he can do to follow in his footsteps.

Paul Michael Thomas Gray is one of two former students of Bentley International School in Quezon City who have been invited by the University Presidential Inaugural Committee (UPIC) to the Jan. 20 enthroning of the 51st American president.

"I am prepared. I have my tux packed, and I have looked up on world history and current world

PHILIPPINE A2

## "Best job in the world" on Aussie tropical isle



EDMONTON—AN AUSTRALIAN STATE has launched a global search for candidates for "the best job in the world"—earning a top salary for living in a beautiful tropical island for six months.

The job pays A\$150,000 (US\$100,000) and includes free airfare to and from the island.

APRIL 2009 A2

## Business acts on global warming

By Philip C. Talbot

FACED WITH AN "UNCONVENTIONAL" reality, the country's business leaders are banding together to push out the private sector's response to global warming, that action stopped, will ask Metro Manila on February

will and one rise. Even industries—like those from the power and cement sectors—that have borne the brunt of criticism from environmentalists are signing in on "The Philippine Imperative," a road map that would help government deal with climate change.

"The first time in Philippine history, we will have a business summit on climate change," former Philippine Rep. Neri Acosta, author of the Clean Air Act, said at the initiative's launching at the Rockwell Center in Makati yesterday.

MANILA A2

## 'GMA allies in House have P20-B pork'

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

ALLIES OF PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-Arroyo in the House of Representatives have built up a huge pork barrel by diverting close to P20 billion in proposed spending this year from debt

service and agriculture schemes to increase allocations for public works, local governments and Congress, Sen. Panfilo Lacson said yesterday.

"Some congressmen are obviously more concerned with winning in 2010 than meeting the

country's survival this year," Lacson told the Inquirer.

Sen. Mar Roxas condemned the dubious diversion.

"This is evidently a blatant attempt to raise funds for the Chair (Chairman) and the President. It is clear that the money

is the least of the President's priority. She is busy on staying in power forever," Roxas said.

QNA A2







## Academician-writer Ed Alegre: 71

ACADEMICIAN, WRITER, POET AND best critic Edgardo Alegre died on Jan. 11 at 71.

Alegre, who taught at the University of the Philippines and Ateneo de Manila, formerly in Quezon City and the Ateneo de Manila College in Baguio, worked in many places nation-

wide to study various authors.

He wrote two books, "Emerging Poets" and "Poet's Poet: Essays on Language and Culture," and conducted night classes with the late English professor and friend who is now in the Philippines.

He also wrote for a time for the

Weekly Inquirer Magazine and the Philippine Daily Inquirer.

Alegre's remains lie in the Francisco Sison in Zamboanga Street, Taguig City. Burial is scheduled on Jan. 18 at the Holy Cross Memorial Garden in Taguig.

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# Bad weather grounds flights to Mindanao

By Joanne Aning

BAD WEATHER AFFECTED TWO OF MINDANAO yesterday forced the cancellation of several domestic flights to the island province. The Manila-based Philippine Airlines, which flies twice a day to the Philippines Air-

lines reported a total of six flights (PR-1817/1827, PR-1818/1828, PR-2819/2829) on its route from Terminal 2 to Cagayan de Oro City, with seven flights to Manila later in the day.

At the NIA's Terminal 3, the Cebu Pacific also suspended some flights (CJT457/458) bound for Manila City and back to Manila.

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# INQUIRER

## Northern Luzon

 Editor: Jim Bordado  
 Editor: Chie/Editor: S. Fernandez

# Unfolding Pinoy soul in indie filmmaking

 By Hauia Mahan  
 Regular City

WHEN HE FIRST HEARD Filipino elder and master-narrator Lopeza Noyce pronounce "Indigenista" as "Indigenista," filmmaker Kidlat Tahimik became inspired.

In Tahimik, it was a blessed "comic slip" as it would help him produce the films that defined his filmmaking.

This filmmaker is based on what he calls "sacred cinema" perspective and approach in making independent films, which seek to help unfold the Filipino's "true genius" struggles.

The Filipino soul is often described as having been confined in the cinema. It means that these constraints under the Americans and caged by Hollywood's influence for decades. As a result, the Filipino indigenous way of looking at things and viewing the world has been stamped or had become blurred.

### Hollywood close

It is thus not surprising that the local media industry, which also reflects the way Filipinos view the world, is more often simply a shadow of Hollywood.

Hollywood's commercial formula is generally a mix of low-level violence and sex. The output of this formula is what Tahimik calls as "McKinley films," in which the movie's content is predictable as the handbag here-the global has had everything.

"Films you see your entire lifetime, you see it all over again," said Tahimik (1947) commercial formula, says Tahimik, who has received international awards for his independent films.

His first film, "Mababangong Panginoon (Blessed Indigenista)," was three production events in the Berlin Film Festival in 1977. He was also honored for his 1981 film, "Sampaguita."

His latest film, "Baka Itong ay Galing sa Bantayan" (Baka Itong ay Galing sa Bantayan), will follow the theme of the "Bantayan," and more than a hour others are scheduled to be screened every 5:30 p.m. onwards at the University of the Philippines Film Center's Island Festival Gallery in Bantayan, Western City, on Jan. 25. The event has been dubbed the Kidlat Tahimik Film Festival.

Indie film fans can also view "Baka Itong ay Galing sa Bantayan" on the video screen of the UP Film Center's Big Screen at the Center at 5 p.m. on Jan. 27.

### Unique world-view

In between screenings are open houses during which the audience could discuss with Tahimik about his writing device's perspective.



PHILIPPINE Kidlat Tahimik teaches children to believe in their own world.

"Sariling duwende," according to Kidlat Tahimik:

"This is your unique world-view, which develops and unfolds from your own context, indigenous culture and values. So where you come from—be it a coastal or upland community—plus the cultural traits, practices and values your community holds dear all contribute to this unique world-view."

In Tahimik, this unique world-view of his writing device becomes one's framework in looking for or away through film, or even through a book or a literary story.

It can also be described in what is "True as They Truly Believe" is so, including the sense of humor of comedian Dolly, which Tahimik sees, a by and large truly begins.

"In some cultural contexts, being true means to help build the nobility of the country, which is still struggling to be true identity after centuries of colonization."

The growth of film, which Tahimik's is often, is "ground in existing nationalism, not only for filmmakers but also for the common people," film via students and event coordinators Pin Mababang Panginoon and Manila Center and in a letter to Asia Film, Asian Family Conference of the UP College of Mass Communication, where they were struggling for the cause of the re-orientation.

Comproducers and Castro find that it is their time to make Tahimik's film accessible to a wider audience, especially students, scholars, filmmakers and educators.

They also regard Tahimik as a "Filipino and teacher" who does not only make films but also demonstrates true teaching through the film. The people through a carefully video camera. Through this, Tahimik seeks to

help record, preserve and enhance the indigenous indigenous storytelling.

In Comproducers and Castro, film perspective is also used in helping watch the traditional studies of educational institutions.

### Bamboo Camera Award

To help encourage budding Filipino indie producers (filmmakers), Tahimik helped start in 2005 what is called the Bamboo Camera Award.

Given to selected filmmakers during the Cinemadex Festival of Independent Film, the award seeks to recognize those "unique voice and writing device in respect and mainstream in their work," says Tahimik.

He says film makers are "playful and honest but anchored on our distinct cultural roots and values in Filipinos."

Tahimik will announce the 2006 award winners during a Bamboo Camera Night on Jan. 17 after the screening of "Baka Itong ay Galing sa Bantayan."

In Tahimik, who believes in the power of speeches in country managers, his desire of borders is needed for the award signifies an effort to help both filmmakers and audience not to grow more in continuing to discover and enhance their distinct spirit or unique voice in making and appreciating films.

# Benguet university faces challenges of climate change

 By Delmar Castillo  
 City Journal, Benguet

THE BENGUET State University (BSU) finds itself at the crossroads of keeping steady its pillars of education and assuming a bigger role in an environmentally critical Cordillera.

The task is enormous since priorities must be balanced in light of the increasing demand for capital in today's public education and the need to deliver results aimed at improving the lives of citizens, says Dr. Rogelio Coling, BSU president.

"But we will not blink. The school record shows that we have our basic center," according to the challenges of the community," he says.

The timing point appears to be: applied research, which BSU is engaged in, is a key in defining the BSU's future role in emerging business partners, de-education of students and health, and the forestry plan for improved crop and forest management—those that have put the Cordillera on track.

But the university's biggest task is to address its biggest risk to its success is impact on climate change.



ORGANIC farms flourish in Benguet, Benguet, Cordillera.

bigger agricultural zone school in Cordillera.

### Challenges

The theme of its 23rd Charter is the university as a university on Jan. 13-18 speaks of the challenges it has to face: "To pursue in developing mitigation and adaptation measures on climate change."

The first step came in 1988 when the BSU declared itself a university applying organic farming, that the school had made strides in its applied research—from improved varieties of strawberries, potatoes and vegetables to providing co-operatives for mushroom, coffee and other pro-



ORGANIC farms flourish in Benguet, Benguet, Cordillera.

cessed products.

The institution of its 23rd Charter—in primary, secondary, high school, college, graduate school and its open university—is backed up by on-site research centers.

These are the Northern Philippine State College of Science and Technology, Institute of Highland Forestry, Systems and Agri-Technology, Teachers Research and Training Institute, First Transverse Ridge Research and Research Development Center, Institute of Natural Resources, and Development, and College Research.

### Applied research

"There is a need to apply

research more because of climate change," says Dr. Coling, the BSU's director of research.

"This is because this kind of research is immediately applicable and addresses the farmer's problems compared to basic research which are primarily to generate knowledge," he says.

Latest says the university annually completes 50 research projects, with an annual budget of P50 million, he says the demand for more research and extension services is becoming a reality a substantial goal.

"We are lucky we have local and foreign sources, like the

European Union, the National Research and Development Program for Organic Agriculture, Legumes and Root Crops (LARC), which is part of the national budget," he says.

But there is a tendency to shun basic research, says Dr. Fernandez (BSU), BSU vice president for research and extension. "There must be balance between applied and pure research efforts are needed for the last for our students' education," he says.

Now the university often enters the world-famous Benguet Mining and a large-scale degree course in organic agriculture. It has been established in in-

ground pest management (BPM) program for major crops. The BPM is the propagation of biological agents to fight harmful pests and diseases, a more aimed to decrease losses from the use of chemical pesticides.

The school also hosts of its new organic produce market. "Our Comproducers and Castro have been in Benguet since production after the international film festival held in Benguet, which is part of the Cordillera Film Festival," he says.

The BSU has also been identified by President Benedicto Aquino as the center of the production of vegetables needed in a food reserve for the government's food security and poverty alleviation programs.

### Wasting no effort

But how does the BSU avoid the existing threat to the agricultural sector?

Dr. Juan Luis, college of agriculture dean, says students must become entrepreneurs themselves right after graduation.

Let's say the BSU would start this year in Value-Added Program where both institutions is provided to producers to open their major business with the university under the program, the students can produce goods from the National Agriculture and Fisheries Council and the Department of Labor and Employment and a large branch of operations of Benguet.

"The program would keep the record for agricultural affairs," Luis says.



















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# The World

Editor Laurence B. Quinn

## LAST PRESS CONFERENCE

# Bush admits few mistakes

WASHINGTON—PRESIDENT George W. Bush held what he called "the ultimate exit interview" on Monday, using the final news conference of his presidency to dispute the idea that the nation's "moral standing has been damaged" by his actions.

He also warned President-elect Barack Obama that, despite the inclusion in the economy law of a great gateway route to fighting "an enemy that would like to attack American Americans again."

Looking back over the long arc of his turbulent presidency, Bush was by turns emotional and defiant, reflective and hoarse, even as he conceded that some things "didn't go according to plan."

But the most striking moment of the 47-minute question-and-answer session was Bush's sweeping defense of his record on fighting terrorism.

With human rights advocates accusing his White House of endorsing torture and demanding an inquiry into its counterterrorism efforts, the departing president used his platform to admonish reporters, and by extension, the movement and the nation, not to forget the lessons of Sept. 11, 2001, and the climate of fear in which police were vigilant.

"All these debates will matter now if there is another attack on the homeland," he said, his voice rising as he looked over the horizon of the White House.

"I remember when it was the right after September the 11th, another level," he declared, adding, "People were saying, 'This crisis they didn't see it? How come they didn't see it?' The question is, how do we make sure the environment was like in Washington?" he said.

It has been nearly eight years since Bush arrived in Washington vowing to be "a uniter, not a divider." He feared he had not lived up to that pledge, but he also said he was proud of the work he and his cabinet did.

Acting as Obama's father, President George W. Bush on Monday asked Congress for the final \$200 billion in the financial bailout fund, effectively ending economic aid in the president's office as he bid a final display of executive power.

Bush's move was the stage for Obama to get quick access to the \$200 billion and the opportunity to overhaul the market-driven rescue package after taking office next Tuesday. Obama said that it would be "irresponsible...to move into the administration without any potential assistance should there be some sort of emergency or something of the financial system."

Congress, where the rat of the money law was still being debated, has 13 days in vote to reject the request. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid was considering holding a vote on a resolution of disapproval as early as Thursday in hopes it would be defeated. Obama said the funds available about a week after Obama inherits one of the worst financial crises in U.S. history.



AT HIS ultimate exit interview on Monday, Bush defends his record on fighting terrorism. But Bush admits he will not be there to see the results of the economic stimulus bill.

Bush said strongly against his critics:

• On the debate on whether he should be re-elected for Obama, Bush said, "I inherited a recession, I'm ending on a recession. In the meantime, there were 32 months of sustained job growth." The 2001 recession began in March, two months before his presidency, but economists agree the recession was very long.

Bush also defended himself against economic attacks from his own party on the large government bailout of Wall Street's financial firms. "If you were voting there and heard that the depression could be greater than the Great Depression, I hope you would vote, yes, which I did," he said.

• On the 32-month-long war on terror that will define his presidency, Bush said he would judge his mission. He claimed that violence had diminished and everyday life had become more secure after his decision in 2007 to send an additional 30,000 troops into Iraq.

• More angrily, Bush dismissed "harm of the state" who say he had damaged America's image around the world. "No question, parts of Europe have said that we shouldn't have gone to war in Iraq without a mission," he said.

But, for those who are not convinced, he said:

• He vigorously took issue with critics of the federal response to Katrina, the land-ravaging disaster in New Orleans. Criticizing and quibbling with critics, he said, "I don't believe the federal response was slow when there were 30,000 people pulled off death right after the storm passed... But the reconstruction issue, please? No. These things happened fairly quickly." Absolutely.

Asked about mistakes, Bush cited a few that he preferred to term "disappointments"—one being the economic impact of the recession in Iraq, the others committed by members of the US military at the Abu Ghraib prison center in Iraq, giving a speech one month after the start of the Iraq war under a "Mission Accomplished" banner on an aircraft carrier, Congress' failure to pass free trade agreements with Colombia, Panama and South Korea, and the negative vote in Washington that led to the 2005 campaign promise to be a "unitary not a divider."

But he offered no evidence he was taking personal responsibility for any of these blunders. Reports from New York Times News Service and AP.

## Bush heeds Obama plea for bailout fund

WASHINGTON—PRESIDENT-ELECT Barack Obama is trying to get swift access to the final \$200 billion in the financial bailout fund, saying it would be "irresponsible" to take office next week without any potential assistance in the event of a financial crisis.

Acting as Obama's father, President George W. Bush on Monday asked Congress for the final \$200 billion in the financial bailout fund, effectively ending economic aid in the president's office as he bid a final display of executive power.

Bush's move was the stage for Obama to get quick access to the \$200 billion and the opportunity to overhaul the market-driven rescue package after taking office next Tuesday. Obama said that it would be "irresponsible...to move into the administration without any potential assistance should there be some sort of emergency or something of the financial system."

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OBAMA Pleads for Congress to pass the financial bailout fund.

"It is clear that the financial system, at least in the short term, is in a state of emergency," Obama said, "and I am asking Congress to act quickly to provide the necessary support to the financial system."

If Congress goes along, Obama would have a huge cache of bailout money at his disposal—and much more to come in the approximately \$800-billion economic stimulus bill that President-elect Obama's administration promises to push through Congress as early as next week.

Obama said quickly sending prompt assistance to struggling lenders and the money would not help fix credit for small businesses and consumers and reduce the rising number of home foreclosures. Separately, Larry Summers, Obama's choice for National Economic Council director, said the new president intended to also impose tougher restrictions and oversight on how the money is spent.

"Many of us have been disappointed with the absence of clarity the lack of transparency, the failure to track how the money is being spent and the failure to take bold action," Obama said.

In a letter to congressional leaders, Obama said as Obama administration would "launch sweeping efforts to address the challenges, which are in the hands of Congress, and the failure to take bold action," Obama said.

## Oil falls below \$37 on gloomy demand outlook

SINGAPORE—Oil prices fell below \$37 a barrel on Thursday as investors expressed pessimism about the demand outlook for oil. The price of oil fell below \$37 a barrel for the first time since 2008.

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## IN THIS ISSUE

- BSP wants to see more bank mergers /B2
- Banquet Corp. suspends Kingking mining project /B4

Editor: Rod O. Mendoza • Assistant Editor: Carrie S. Mariano

## BUSINESS

Main text: (PHILIPPINE INQUIRER) and (PHILIPPINE INQUIRER)

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## Exports fell for 2nd straight month in Nov.

Shipments of electronics down 17% to \$2.02B

By Russell W. Domingo

PHILIPPINE EXPORTS FELL 11.9 PERCENT TO \$3.49 BILLION in November, the second straight month of decline after contracting by 14.8 percent in October, the National Statistics Office said yesterday.

Shipments of electronics products, the country's main export, slumped 17 percent to \$2.02 billion in November from \$2.40 billion a year ago. This

followed a fall of 16.5 percent year-on-year in October. Savings from articles of apparel and other light accessories—the second

top export that made up 3.6 percent of total exports—slid by 15.8 percent to \$120.35 million.

Exports in the 11 months to November were up 0.76 percent over the same period in 2007. At a growth rate of almost flat and with just a month's data being analyzed, the country's target of a 5-percent exports growth for 2009 was practically unattainable.

Shipments of electronics, largely assembled from imported parts, con-

tracted 4.79 percent in the first 11 months of the year. Electronics made up 57.7 percent of total export revenues in November.

Exports to the United States, the country's top export destination in the month, were down 18.8 percent to \$108.7 million in November from a year earlier, also following a 15.3-percent fall in October.

Exports to Japan, the second

EXPORTS

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# Peza bullish despite global crisis

## Gov't agency projects 10% growth in investments in 2009

By Almag L. Ho

THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY (PEZA) maintains a high view of the country's looming economic crisis, despite the expected adverse impact of the global economic crisis.

PEZA director general Lita Lita said investments should grow by 10 percent this year, giving rise to a 5 percent increase in employment.

Export dollars should likewise increase by 5 percent this year, she said.

In a presentation during yesterday's Biting Philippines, she said that employment rose from 10.5 million in 2008.

From last year, employment is 1.5 percent less in services, compared to 11.54 billion in 2008. PEZA's 11.54 billion in 2008.

The number of approved projects also rose up to 3.1 billion in 2008. 1.5 percent more than the 2.9 billion approved projects in 2007.

## Pre-need firms turn to SEC for help

### HSBC sees surplus in current account

By Michael V. Sano

THE CURRENT ACCOUNT is expected to show a surplus in its current account, according to HSBC, a global bank, on reports and disclosures in its current account.

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The Japanese economy for the bulk with 31.41 percent, followed by Philippines with 20.28 percent, Australia with 18.61 percent and South Korea with 15.61 percent.

Indonesia economy services followed at 7.66 percent, electrical machinery and appliances at 6.75 percent and transport and parts at 5.8 percent.

On the export side, economic exports fell slightly to \$40.3 billion in 2008, from \$40.5 billion the year before.

Despite the 6.66-percent drop in value, 2008 economic exports were the second largest since 1993, in terms of dollar value.

The largest export value to value rose to 2008.

For 2009 and the coming years, the largest export value to value rose to 2008.

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## P40B in benchmark bonds up

By Ronald M. Dornier

THE BUREAU OF THE TREASURY today said it was selling at least P40B bonds worth of new five- and seven-year benchmark bonds in exchange for existing debt.

The government aims to raise at least P40B bonds for each year through the end of 2009, it said.

The benchmark bonds are issued at a five-year maturity and are sold at a 5 percent interest rate.

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## PUGLIESE-BARNON



**BY THE LANC**



## ADDITIONAL NOTES



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## EXTENDING PHASES



## ATC=0 AND #ERR=0



## BYUNG-SANG GARCILLANO



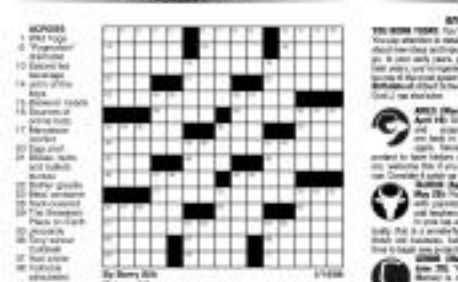
**Author's Note:** I thank the following people for their comments on earlier drafts of this article: David G. Thelen, David A. Reardon, and the anonymous reviewers for *Journal of Management Inquiry*.



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## Five games to keep your kids away from the computer

Board games guarantee family bonding fun.

By Pam Pacion

YOU WANT YOUR KIDS TO HAVE EVERYTHING as you buy them computers and the latest gaming consoles, the video games and the Internet can take up so much of their time, leaving little time for family bonding.

One way to make sure the family spends time at home together is by playing board games. Return to the classics—Monopoly, Risk, and Trivial Pursuit—don't forget to check out newer games, too—there's just so much to provide precious moments of fun for the whole family.



### Cranium Family Edition

Includes: game board, 400 colorful cards, Cranium clay, six Cranium Cubes, four Hopper Frogs, a die, three Cranium pawns and pencil, and four money pieces.

The objective is to be the first team to reach the finish line by doing different activities indicated by four cards.

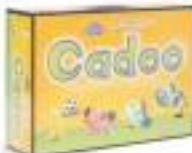
Number of players: two to four teams.

Age: 8 and up.

Why it's fun: Since you get to act, answer with clay, draw, flip frogs, make poems and more, it never gets boring.

Why it's good for your kids: Including and sharing will develop their social skills while the creative-type activities can build their confidence.

Other similar games: Cranium, Sky Craziest, Who's Craziest.



### CADOO

Includes: board game, secret decoder mask, Cranium clay, 300 cards, colored tokens, six-sided dice, Cranium pawns and pencil.

The objective is to be the first team to cross one of the trails on the board with letters, digits, and symbols and decode your way to victory.

Number of players: Two to four.

Age: 7 and up.

Why it's fun: The activities will put your kids giggling. Snaps a tongue, or like a famous Hollywood star, but objects around the house—this game will keep the kids away from their computers.

Why it's good for your kids: It's a game that can play on their own. A great choice for adding bonding, but feel free to join the fun, too!

Other similar games: Trivial Pursuit, Cranium, Who's Craziest.

SCENE IT!  
Includes: 1000, 1000 game board, Party Play, list of names, 100 trivia cards, 50 trivia cards.

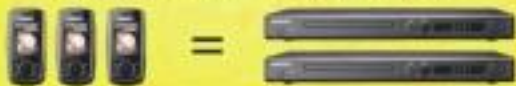
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|                                |                  |
|--------------------------------|------------------|
| 1 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT | 8 ISKOL BUNOL    |
| 2 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT | 7 ONE NIGHT ONLY |
| 3 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     | 6 MAGKASIGAN     |
| 4 BAKER                        | 9 DESPERADAS 3   |
| 5 ISKOL BUNOL                  | 10 DAYO          |

## GRMITA

|                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 BAKER                        | 6 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     |
| 2 ONE NIGHT ONLY               | 7 ISKOL BUNOL                  |
| 3 DAYO                         | 8 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT |
| 4 DESPERADAS 2                 | 9 ISKOL BUNOL                  |
| 5 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT |                                |

## METRO EAST

|                  |                                |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 ONE NIGHT ONLY | 6 DAYO                         |
| 2 BAKER          | 8 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT |
| 3 ISKOL BUNOL    | 7 DESPERADAS 2                 |
| 4 MAGKASIGAN     | 9 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     |

## NOVALICHES

|                                |                     |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     | 8 DAYONE NIGHT ONLY |
| 2 DESPERADAS 2                 | 9 BAKER             |
| 3 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT | 7 ISKOL BUNOL       |
| 4 DAYO                         | 6 MAGKASIGAN        |

## PIONEER

|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 DESPERADAS 2            | 2 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X |
| 2 TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT | 3 ISKOL BUNOL              |

## 2008 Metro Manila Film Festival

Catch these festival entries

## MOVIEWORLD

- SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X
- MAGKASIGAN
- DESPERADAS 2
- KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT
- ISKOL BUNOL
- DAYO
- BAKER



## STA. ROSA

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 ISKOL BUNOL                  | 1 ISKOL BUNOL                  |
| 2 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT | 2 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT |
| 3 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     | 3 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     |
| 4 DESPERADAS 2                 | 4 DESPERADAS 2                 |
| 5 BAKER                        | 5 BAKER                        |

## LIPA

|                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 ISKOL BUNOL                  | 1 ISKOL BUNOL                  |
| 2 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT | 2 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT |
| 3 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     | 3 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     |
| 4 DESPERADAS 2                 | 4 DESPERADAS 2                 |
| 5 BAKER                        | 5 BAKER                        |

## DALMARINAS

|                                |                                |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 DESPERADAS 2                 | 1 DESPERADAS 2                 |
| 2 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT | 2 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT |
| 3 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     | 3 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     |
| 4 ISKOL BUNOL                  | 4 ISKOL BUNOL                  |
| 5 BAKER                        | 5 BAKER                        |

## IMUS

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|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 DESPERADAS 2                 | 1 DESPERADAS 2                 |
| 2 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT | 2 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT |
| 3 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     | 3 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     |
| 4 ISKOL BUNOL                  | 4 ISKOL BUNOL                  |
| 5 BAKER                        | 5 BAKER                        |

## ANGELES

|                                |                            |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 ISKOL BUNOL                  | 3 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X |
| 2 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT | 4 BAKER                    |

## STARMILLS

|                            |                                |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 BAKER                    | 4 DESPERADAS 2                 |
| 2 ONE NIGHT ONLY           | 5 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT |
| 3 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X | 6 DAYO                         |

## BACOLOD

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| 1 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT | 1 KING TANGING INA NYONG LAHAT |
| 2 ISKOL BUNOL                  | 2 ISKOL BUNOL                  |
| 3 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     | 3 ONE NIGHT ONLY               |
| 4 DESPERADAS 2                 | 4 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     |
| 5 ONE NIGHT ONLY               | 5 DAYO                         |
| 6 BAKER                        | 6 DESPERADAS 2                 |

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| 3 ONE NIGHT ONLY               | 3 ONE NIGHT ONLY               |
| 4 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     | 4 SHAKE, RATTLE AND ROLL X     |
| 5 DAYO                         | 5 DAYO                         |
| 6 DESPERADAS 2                 | 6 DESPERADAS 2                 |

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ALL MANDARIN CREDIT CARDS NOW ACCEPTED IN ALL SM CINEMA THEATERS





## Show biz prospects for 2009

WE DON'T OWN A CRYSTAL ball to allow divination. Instead, we do keep track of how show business trends put out from year to year, to have our best-laid educated guesses on the entertainment world's prospects for 2009.

Due to the recession, yes—sure, it's likely that comedy productions will come on strong in the next 12 months.

Jim Carrey's new series, "The Man," joins the rest of the field with its relatively upbeat

story about a former rapper whose life and love prospects perk up when he decides to say yes to everything.

Another star, T.Y. Joe Lewis, was all set to return as the medium's most popular late-night talk show host—catching wind of a new comedy-oriented program. The offer was too good to pass up, so Lewis had to defer his return, possibly for years. If his show does well, however.

Lewis's new show delights in

products because it's much more relaxed than the daily one and allows the usually ill the 10 p.m. slot.

## Laugh lens

On the local film scene, the comedy connection is similarly strong up, with a number of the 2009's movies coming across as all-time laugh lines ("Midnight in Paris," "The Hangover Part II," "The 40 Year-Old Virgin," "The Hangover Part II," "The Hangover Part II").

Another major development can be described as an "anti-tradition." The decline, after years of supremacy on the local side, of "reality TV" shows. Because are finally worrying of all these experiments and challenge pro-

## VIEWPICKER

Nesher  
L. Zorr

Bad economy may result in more comedy films

grains that just add into people's lives and expose them to middle-class TV.

The comedy decline has been long in coming, because reality

TV shows utilized viewer's prepping time, providing by its technology more creative choices of topics and subjects — from Hugh Hefner's latest in "Late July" to "The Daily Show" that end up not in a restaurant or at the movies, but in bed.

The reality TV format was dated on by producers because it was so economical. What will take its place? Comedy, the global success will limit production budgets, so now one who should be in the region—the show for more "reality" and children.

## Movie snippets

In the movie, aspects will continue to provide reliable faith in the future, as well as assured features for the family audience. With the exception of good showing of "Mamma Mia," movies may also get a big boost in 2009.

That would be "Mamma Mia," the musical film, which was big hit in the '90s, was particularly beloved for decades after that, until "Mamma Mia!" helped restore the film format has done a decade ago.

Other notable trends: Much

more interactive radio and TV, with members of the audience themselves originating it. It's greater percentage of program content.

And, in music-themed, more stage musicals being adapted from hit movies, like "The Last Days" and the recent hit on the British block, "Broke."

This new trend is a reversal of the traditional practice of movie versions being made of hit stage musicals. But "My Fair Lady" and "What's His Story?" The show has since been changed, indeed!

## New leading men

Bradley Cooper makes his bid for stardom in an new low-budget comedy—opposite Jim Carrey in "The Man" and in the wedding-themed "The Hangover."

In "The Man," Cooper plays Brady, who is repeatedly frustrated by his friend (Carrey's) family's constant refusal to accept his life more than two years of his life's dream.

In "Hangover," Cooper portrays one of three groomsmen on a wild bachelor party week, and in "The Hangover."

## M M T A MOVIE GUIDE

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The Valentine Box Office King meets his new Queen

And it all began...

When i met u

coming soon in theaters



## OPENS TOMORROW

WHEN GOD IS AWAY THE DEVIL WILL PLAY

CHACE CRAWFORD  
OF "GOSHY GIRL"

HALEY BENNETT



THE  
HAUNTING  
OF MOLLY HARTLEY

A CURSE CAN'T ESCAPE.  
A SOUL THAT CAN'T BE SAVED.



PG-13





